



Klamath Network Featured Creature

January 2005

Goblin's Gold (*Schistostega pennata*)

FIELD NOTES:

General Description:

This delicate, secretive moss has leaves in two rows, all in a single plane, giving it a flattened, two-dimensional appearance. Its fantastical common name derives from the reflective quality of its young shoots, which catch the light and appear luminous, and from its preference for hidden, sheltered microhabitats (see below).

Ecology



Schistostega in its natural habitat (above) and in microscopic view (below).



Where to see it in the Klamath Parks: *Schistostega* is very rare. Its only known occurrence in the Klamath Parks is at Crater Lake, and until about 10 years ago, it had never been documented in Oregon at all. However, it has a wide geographic distribution, making it likely that other populations of *Schistostega* are out there waiting to be discovered.

